

## The Faultless Fabric Care Handbook



### Tips on:

- Washing and ironing
- Organizing your wardrobe
- Care of special fabrics
- Stain removal
- Saving time, money, energy  
in caring for your wardrobe

- For a crisper finish when using spray starch, spray and iron; then spray and re-iron. A much crisper result is obtained than by saturating the fabric the first time. When too much starch is sprayed at one time, it has no place to go except to coat the iron or flake on the fabric.
- If you should iron in a wrinkle, it's no problem! Simply re-spray starch on the mistake and iron again. You'll be surprised at how easy it is to erase!
- Keep your iron clean with Faultless Hot-Iron Cleaner. This removes all the iron coating and makes the iron glide more easily—and no more brown stains on that white shirt collar! If you can't find Faultless Hot-Iron Cleaner in your supermarket or hardware store, send \$8.94 to the address in the front of this booklet, and we'll mail you two tubes. Be sure to follow the directions for best results.
- You can prolong the life of garments, such as shirts and washable slacks, by laundering them at home. Occasionally take slacks to the cleaners when they need a sharp crease. Then, when you touch up between cleanings, just follow the memory crease.
- Always keep the basic colors of thread handy: white, black, brown, navy. It takes only a minute to sew on a button that just popped off your shirt or jacket.
- Hang wrinkled clothing on a shower rod and run the hottest water possible to produce steam in the room. Shut the door and let the steam relax the wrinkles the easy way.
- Develop the habit of leaving your underwear right side out when you undress. It saves folding time when you remove them from the dryer. On the other hand, take washable sweaters off wrong-side out and launder them this way. This helps reduce pilling and wearing on the right side. Whatever you do, don't forget to empty all pockets when you change clothes!
- Use spray starch on collars to smooth down collar pilling and improve the look on an older shirt. If you really want to prolong the life of a favorite shirt, and the cuffs are frayed, take the shirt to the laundry and insist on heavy starch. Then, using a pair of scissors, simply cut off the frayed threads. The starch will keep the loose ends in place, and no one will ever notice the wear.

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## Introduction

The Faultless Fabric Care Handbook has been created for you, to help you meet today's fabric care needs. We're moving from an era of disposables and waste (use it once, then throw it away) into an era of learning to conserve our belongings, not only so that they serve us well, but so that we enjoy them for a longer time and get maximum wear from them as well.

The Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company, makers of Faultless Spray Starch, Faultless Sizing and Faultless Hot-Iron Cleaner, brings you this booklet, which includes tips and ideas on how to care for your clothes to keep them clean, fresh and in fashion.

If, after reading this booklet, you have any additional questions or problems, or if you have a tip or idea you'd like to share with us, please write to us at:

**Faultless Fabric Care Booklet**  
**Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company**  
1025 W. 8th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64101-1200

Additional copies of this booklet are available for clubs, organizations, schools, friends and relatives. Send your requests to the address above.



## How To Keep Washables Sparkling Clean

### Sorting The Wash

Proper sorting of washables prior to washing eliminates problems, such as linting, wrinkling and fading. Always follow the care instructions on labels. Wash heavily soiled items separately from lightly soiled ones.

### Color

Separate white, colorfast, and non-colorfast items. White permanent press and man-made fabrics pick up dye in the water, so they should be washed separately. If the care label states "wash separately," this indicates that the garment is not color-fast, so follow the instruction.

### Fabric

Sort lint-givers (towels, some flannels) from lint-attractors (corduroy, velour, velveteen). Some fabrics, such as white cotton, linens and underwear, require hot water and vigorous washing. Others, such as washable woolens and dark colors, require cold water and short wash cycles. Delicate fabrics require gentle agitation, so wash them separately.

### Size

For a balanced load, mix large and small items together. Fill washer so your wash has plenty of room to move freely. Don't overload!

### Pre-Wash Checklist

- Shake out loose dirt
- Close zippers, hooks and eyes
- Sew up rips and mend tears
- Empty pockets
- Loosely tie sashes and belts to prevent tangling
- Turn sweaters and printed t-shirts wrongside out to prevent pilling and protect the print.
- Remove velcro-attached shoulder pads

### Pre-Treatment

Always remove stains from washables before washing. Refer to the stain removal chart on page 12 of this handbook for special stains.

Pre-wash soil and stain removers are used to remove stubborn soil and stains. Check the ingredients. If the product contains petroleum distillates, it will be particularly effective on oil-based stains. Follow the label directions.

Granular pre-soaks are designed to soak out stubborn protein-type stains, such as grass, blood,

eggs, milk, baby formula, chocolate and ground-in dirt. To use, garments should be soaked in pre-soak solution for 30 minutes or longer in either cool or warm water.

### Water Temperature

**Hot water:** Water temperature for washer should be 130 degrees F. Set water heater accordingly. White or heavily soiled articles should be washed in hot water.

**Warm water:** For normally soiled clothes, permanent press and your delicate items.

**Cold water:** For lightly soiled clothes, and for bright and dark colors (to prevent fading).

**Rinsing:** A cold rinse is just as effective as a warm one, and it saves precious energy.

### Laundry Products

Don't use soap unless the water in your area is soft. When used in hard water, soap forms a curd which can build up on clothes, causing them to become gray, dingy and stiff. If using a cold water cycle, dissolve powdered soap or detergent in warm water first.

### Detergents

Follow package instructions and measure accordingly. This is important because there are so many different, new products on the market today that require unique measures. Remember that package recommendations are for average soil in 17 gallons of water which is of average hardness. Use more detergent for big loads, extremely dirty clothes, when pre-washes are used, and in hard water. Use less for small loads, light soil, partial water levels and soft water.

### Chlorine Bleach

Aside from whitening, chlorine bleach disinfects and deodorizes. It is used for all fabrics except silk, wool, spandex, non-colorfast fabrics and certain flame-retardant finishes. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Improper use causes tears and holes. Dilute bleach in four parts of water and add to your wash after the machine is filled with water and begins agitating.

### Oxygen Bleach

Safe for all washable fabrics and colors, oxygen bleach is most effective when used regularly. It is not strong enough to restore whiteness to garments that have become gray and dingy over time. Add the recommended amount along with detergent.

## Fabric Softeners

They soften and fluff fabrics, give your garments a smooth feeling and reduce wrinkles. Softeners also reduce static cling in synthetics, help your iron glide easily over fabric, and leave clothes smelling fresh and clean. They work microscopically, lubricating fabric fibers, so they slip over each other and cause the fabric to feel softer.

There are three basic types of fabric softeners. Liquid rinse-cycle softeners work in all water temperatures. Add according to label instructions. The amount you use depends on the size of your washload, not the amount of water. If build-up becomes a problem, use softeners for every other wash, instead of every wash.

Wash-added softeners are added with or are in the detergent. Dryer softeners are convenient and add a nice fragrance. Using them on the "air only" setting or for short drying cycles will probably produce unsatisfactory results because the ingredients on the softener's sheets or pads only soften with heat, and are transferred to warm clothes. Softeners also spread by friction when clothes brush against each other in the tumbling process.

Avoid pouring fabric softener directly on fabrics as staining can occur. Even the dryer softeners may cause spotting. Remove by rubbing the dampened stain with bar soap and wash in the usual manner.

Always read and follow care labels on each garment.

## Tips On Drying

- Articles washed together usually can be dried together. Colorfast articles can be dried in mixed loads. Turn pockets of heavy garments inside-out for faster drying.
- Don't overload your dryer.
- Shake out laundered articles before putting them into the dryer. They'll dry quicker and wrinkle less.
- Don't overdry. Not only does overdrying cause wrinkling, harshness and shrinkage, but you waste energy.
- Remove garments as soon as the dryer stops to prevent wrinkling.
- Clean the lint screen after each use.
- Should you be concerned about shrinkage, remove the garment from the dryer while it is still damp, hang on a plastic hanger, and allow it to air dry.

## Possible Laundry Problems

Graying is caused by:

- Too little detergent.
- Using soap in hard water.
- Wash water that is not hot enough.
- Overloading your washer.
- Color or soil transfer due to improper sorting.

Yellowing is caused by:

- Too little detergent.
- Incomplete removal of body oil or the presence of minerals (iron or manganese) in your wash water.
- Use of chlorine bleach on sensitive white fabrics.

Tearing, holes or weakened fabric can be caused by chemical damage due to:

- Overuse of bleach.
- Improper diluting of bleach.
- Accidental spills or splashes.

White streaking or stiffness usually is caused by:

- Carbonate build-up from no-phosphate granular detergents. If you have to use no-phosphates in your area and your water is hard, try using a liquid detergent or a water softener.

Wrinkling can be lessened by:

- Checking the care label on each garment and following its suggestions.
- Using a fabric softener.
- Using the permanent press cycles of your washer and dryer.
- Hanging clothes as soon as dryer stops.

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## How To Iron

First, select the right iron for your needs. If it is time to buy a new one, consider the following:

- Does it sit solidly on its heel so that it can't be knocked over easily? Many new models have safety heel rests or bars.
- Does it feel comfortable in your hand? Well-balanced? Not too heavy?
- Is the fabric guide clearly coded to the temperature settings, and are the settings easy to change?
- If it's a steam iron, can you tell at a glance whether you have to refill the tank? Is the tank easy to fill and empty?

There are additional features available, such as a self-cleaning action that flushes out water chambers and steam vents. This enables you to use tap water instead of distilled water. Several brands have a

device for releasing an extra amount of steam. There are irons that remember to shut off, cordless irons and those that shoot a jet of steam. And, you can purchase either a regular size or a small one for quick touch-ups and travel. In addition to the regular metal soleplate, a non-stick soleplate finish is available that allows the iron to glide easily. It resists accumulation of fibers, lint and starch, but it can be scratched by pins or zippers.

Most of the irons now are light-weights—irons that weigh about a pound less than the old conventional irons. Their lighter weight makes them less tiring to use. They also have faster heat-up and cool-down so you don't have to wait as long to start ironing or changing fabric settings. For best results, be sure to read the use and care manual which comes with your iron.

Next, consider the ironing board. Start with a sturdy board so it doesn't tip or collapse. It should have a metal top with adequate ventilation for the steam to escape, and it should be light-weight and adjustable so you can select the ironing height that is most comfortable.



An important basic is your ironing pad and cover. Your pad should be thick and resilient enough to provide a good cushion for ironing, as well as to permit absorption of excess steam. The cover can

be muslin, silicone or Teflon. A muslin cover is soft, absorbent, and can be tossed into the washer and dryer. It should be removed from the dryer while still slightly damp, replaced on the ironing board, and sprayed lightly with Faultless Spray Starch to keep it fresh and clean longer.

Silicone and Teflon ironing-board covers help reflect heat, so your ironing goes faster, and they are scorch and stain resistant. They are smooth, so clothes move more easily when you arrange them on the board. Machine laundering ruins the finish of a silicone or Teflon cover, so just use a damp sponge to wipe it clean, then go over it with a dry iron to remove all moisture. This helps keep it fresh and usable longer.

For quick touch-ups on collars, cuffs or button plackets, use thickly folded towels, an old folded sheet, your kitchen bread board, the kitchen counter, a bed, floor, or even a pool table. Use a light spray of Faultless Sizing to help remove wrinkles and add a hint of body.

Organize your ironing, including touch-ups. If space permits, find a place where you can leave your ironing board up for convenience. Place a small table next to your ironing board to hold your Faultless Spray Starch and Faultless Sizing, needle and thread for quick mending, and whatever other items you may need.

### Using Spray Starch Or Sizing

Spray starch is a vegetable-based product that imparts a firm body and crisp finish to all washable fabrics. Faultless Spray Starch lets your iron glide over fabric. Its Dirtgard® qualities help clothes look fresh longer and wash clean easier. Now, there are several options open to you at the spray starch section in your favorite supermarket.

- Lite starch provides softer body than regular spray starch.
- Heavy starch gives you more body and crispness, and is ideal for linens, jeans, and natural cottons.
- Lemon starch gives you a fresh, lemon scent while ironing, but quickly dissipates after the ironing is finished.
- Sizing fabric finish may have either a vegetable or a water-soluble cellulose base. Fabric finishes were developed specifically for fabric blends and polyesters. Tighter weaves, special finishes and man-made fabrics created a need for a finishing agent that would penetrate more quickly and add just enough body to replace the sizing which was

in the fabric when it was new. Try Faultless Sizing Fabric Finish to perk up wilted garments and as a sewing aid for seams, hems and darts.

Which product you use will depend on your personal preference and the results you want—plus the fiber content of the fabric. Remember: polyester fiber is like a glass rod and can't absorb moisture. If you use spray starch on synthetics or blends, and even some cottons, spray the entire garment, roll it up loosely and leave it for a few minutes before ironing. Or spray, and then run your hand over the surface to speed up absorption. This gives your spray starch a chance to be absorbed by the fabric and avoids ironing coating or flaking.

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### **Cleaning The Iron**

Use hot-iron cleaner to clean your iron's soleplate. It removes fusibles, starch—anything which coats the bottom of your iron. It eliminates iron drag and saves time and energy. Faultless Hot-iron Cleaner lets your iron glide like magic over fabric! In fact, it is a good idea to finish every ironing session with a quick application of hot-iron cleaner—then, the iron is ready for those fast touch-ups.

### **Ironing Shirts/Blouses**

Use either Faultless Spray Starch or Faultless Sizing to perk up collars, cuffs, button plackets and pockets. Note: when using an ironing aid, such as spray starch or sizing, you don't need to use the steam setting on your iron. The ironing aid provides sufficient moisture to smooth out wrinkles quickly and easily. The addition of steam increases the amount of moisture and stretches out your ironing time, wasting time and energy.

Spray and iron a portion at a time, or spray the entire garment and roll it up for a few minutes. Iron small areas first: collar, cuffs, sleeves, yoke, button placket. Always move the finished areas away from you and your iron.

### **Ironing Jeans/Slacks**

Use Faultless Dry Starch for a heavy professional finish on jeans. After starching, place inseams together, smooth creases with fingers, and drip dry, hanging from pants hanger. Creases are then lined up and formed for easier ironing. Or, saturate with Faultless Spray Starch and follow above instruction. Then respray and iron.

Iron small areas of pants or jeans first: waistband, zipper placket, then the body of the jeans, saving the legs for last. Fold the top leg back over the body, line up the inseam with the outseam, and iron. Spray and iron again along the crease line to ensure a sharp, smart crease. Turn garment over and repeat the procedure on the other leg. Smooth both legs flat and touch up on areas needing special attention — usually near the top of the leg.

### **Ironing Table Linens**

Use either Faultless Dry, Heavy, or Regular Spray Starch, depending on fiber content and stiffness desired. Faultless Sizing is extremely effective on fabrics with a high polyester content. When folding napkins into imaginative shapes, be sure to use Faultless Heavy or Regular Spray Starch for the extra body required.

Double your tablecloth. Spray and iron a section at a time. Turn it over and repeat the process. To avoid a center crease, shift the fabric to one side, spray and iron, but don't crease.

If you use your table linens infrequently, store them laundered, but save the ironing until you're ready to use them, so they'll be fresh. Aside from saving you the time and effort of touching up next time you use them, this is the best for linens.

Everyday placemats look perky and fresh when starched with Faultless, and the fabric will repel soil and will wash clean more easily.



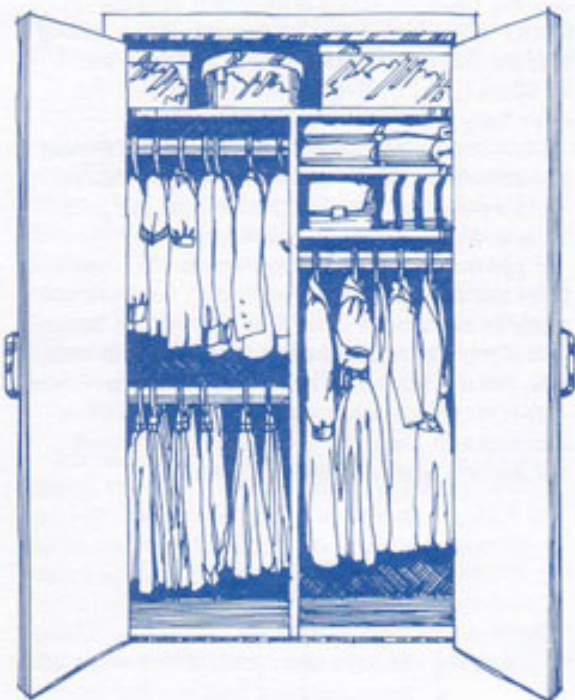
## How To Care For Clothes

### Organization Ideas

Revamp your closet to increase storage.

Save space by putting in an extra clothes pole right under the one that's there now. Hang blouses and shirts on the top one; slacks, shirts, jackets on the bottom. You'll see that it works wonders. Hang long items in another closet or in a different section.

Add shelves above the poles for sweaters, shoes and smaller items. Use clear plastic boxes so you can see what you own.



### Hang-It-All

Your choice of hangers is important. Wire hangers may cause snags, not to mention that they tend to ruin shoulder shapes. Use padded hangers for jackets and blazers. Pants and skirt hangers are a must.

Always hang up clothes as soon as you take them off. The old piling or draping-over-a-chair system causes wrinkles and even wears fabric out. Install a hook outside your closet door to hang just-worn clothes for airing before putting them back in the closet.

Provide a special place in the closet for hanging items that need special attention, such as a mending or a touch-up with the iron. As the section takes up more space, it will serve as a reminder not to neglect mending and ironing too long.

Hang all your clothes facing the same direction, and finish your reorganization by hanging all blouses together, all shirts, all pants, all jackets. A fresh, clean, well-organized wardrobe helps you in selecting your outfit for the day and also in spotting new ways to coordinate some of the separates you have.

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### How To Adapt To Changing Fashions And Trends

When planning your wardrobe purchases, stick with basics and plan to do investment buying. Buy only good quality basic garments. Develop a modular wardrobe that is always appropriate, economical, flexible and flattering. Remember: a modular wardrobe goes beyond separates. It includes the right accessories — belts, scarves, jewelry, handbags, shoes. Stick with classics that don't go out of style, yet always look stunning.

Analyze your current wardrobe and choose several basic colors on which to build. Line up everything you own that can be worn with each basic color: blouses, sweaters, vests, skirts, jumpers, jackets and accessories. Create your own outfits. Mix n' match. Determine what you need to complete each outfit. Then go shopping. By adding blouses, vests, belts, blazers and jackets, a simple wardrobe can produce a variety of different looks. Combine different fabrics and styles: add a soft silk blouse to convert a basic office suit to a just-right outfit for an evening on the town.

### Fabrics

Natural fabrics are back! Many can be worn year round: cotton, linen, silk or light-weight wool, depending on color, style and climate. For women, blouses and shirts are the most important elements in an all-season wardrobe. Wear softer, more feminine colors, ancient prints, tapestry designs or paisley for zest. They are always in good taste.

Natural fiber fabrics are more comfortable to wear and often last longer than man-made fibers. But don't overlook some of the new, luxurious polyester fabrics that are exquisite to look at and easy to care for.

### Styles And Designs

It is "in" to add to what you already own, instead of replacing fashions of the last few years. The addition of accessories can make your wardrobe fashionable and add your individual trademark.

Accessories can create an ethnic look or add just the right color to an outfit. Belts have become a fashion essential. They are available in a wide variety of colors, textures and widths, to say nothing of the exciting buckles. One way to update a suit is to add a slim belt at the waist.

Hosiery and shoes can be used to transform an outfit from sporty to classic.

Acquire a variety of cotton sweaters for year round versatility. Blouses in a wide selection of colors and styles also will extend your wardrobe. Build on your present wardrobe so your investment buying pays off.

### General Fabric Care

Learn about the fiber content of each garment. Look for fiber content labels before purchasing and, if you don't find one, ask the salesperson.

### Permanent Care Labels

The Federal Trade Commission requires that articles of wearing apparel bear permanent care labels. However, the manufacturer is required to list only one method of safe care for the garment, no matter how many other safe methods may be used. This can be misleading, so be alert and learn enough about fabrics to use common sense in caring for them.

### Mending

Never let tears go! Mend immediately. You'll cut down on costly major repairs and extend the life of your clothes. Don't rely on safety pins. They perforate the fabric. Keep threaded needles handy at all times so you don't get lazy about mending.

## Removal Of Frequently Occurring Stains

### The Three P's Of Stain Removal

**Promptness:** Extremely important. Treat stains as soon as possible, and before laundering. Aging and laundering before pretreatment can set some stains.

**Patience:** If the garment is worth saving, it is worth a little extra time and effort to follow stain removal procedures.

**Perseverance:** Some stains are difficult to remove. It may be necessary to repeat a procedure several times before the stain is removed.

Many stains, except oil and grease, can be removed by sponging with cold water. Always test stain removers in an inconspicuous place on the fabric for color fastness or other adverse effects. When treating a spot, place it face down on paper towels or an old bath towel and apply stain remover to the underside of the stain so that the stain will be forced off the surface and not through the fabric. Replace towels frequently to prevent stain transfer.

### Perspiration

If permitted to remain, perspiration stains fade the colors of dye. Wash or sponge off as soon as possible, using warm water and a detergent or a pre-wash before washing. If colors have been changed by perspiration, it's sometimes possible to restore them by sponging fresh stains with ammonia or vinegar and rinsing with water. Use cleaning fluid if an oily stain remains. Launder using the hottest water safe for the fabric.

### Ballpoint Ink

Spray first with hair spray and rub together. Within a few minutes the ink should start to fade. Repeat spraying until ink fades completely. Denatured alcohol also can be used, pouring it on the stain and following the above direction.

### Coffee/Tea

Sponge immediately with cold water. If stain persists, try a pre-wash and launder with a fabric-safe bleach. Another method: if safe for fabric, stretch the stain over a bowl, fasten with a rubber band and pour boiling water on the stain from a height of 1 to 3 feet.

### Wine

Soak in enzyme pre-soak or oxygen bleach, using hottest water safe for fabric. Launder. If stain remains, launder again, using chlorine bleach, if safe for fabric. Another method: Cover with table salt (lots of it). Let it set for a few minutes (until stain fades), rub vigorously with half a lemon, then launder as you usually would.

### Oil And Grease

Spray with a pre-wash containing a petroleum distillate. Launder using the hottest water safe for fabric, increasing the amount of detergent.

### Chewing Gum

Chill, scrape off excess, then saturate with pre-wash or cleaning fluid.

### Blood

Soak immediately in cold water and rub with bar soap, or soak in an enzyme pre-soak product. For stubborn, old stains, apply a few drops of ammonia and wash again with detergent.

### Grass/Foliage/Flowers

Dampen the stained area with cool water, rub liquid detergent or detergent paste into stain, then rinse. If stain remains, or if the stain is large, a pre-soak may be necessary. After treating stain, launder in the hottest water possible with a fabric-safe bleach.

First, soak in cold water. Try a pre-wash and launder as usual. Do not dry. If stain remains, then...

- Work powdered detergent paste or liquid detergent into stain. Allow to stand for 30 minutes.
- Launder, using an appropriate bleach.
- Soak overnight with a pre-soak.
- Launder in hot water with a generous amount of detergent.



### Money And Time Saving Hints

- To keep zippers in working condition, close the zipper before washing.
- An easy way to remove lint and dirt from shirt pockets is to use a soft toothbrush.
- Turn all colored socks and blue jeans inside out when placing them in the washing machine. Any lint accumulation will be on the inside. Besides, it helps to retain the brightness of the color.
- Empty sinks of unnecessary suds after doing hand laundry by washing hands with a bar of soap—the lather helps to clear away the mound of suds.
- To wash white shoelaces easily, put them into a small jar with warm sudsy water and bleach. Close, shake several times, remove, rinse and dry.
- Give each child in the family a different colored pillowcase to hang on the inside of his closet door. They are great laundry bags for dirty clothes and kids will love to help collect dirty clothes for washing.
- To control dampness in a closet, fill an empty coffee can with charcoal briquets, punch holes in the cover, and place the container on the floor. A one-pound can filled with charcoal is ample for a 3 x 5 closet.
- When storing clothing in garment bags for seasonal use, list each item and number the bag. Tape the list inside the closet door for quick identification.
- A three-bar swinging towel rack attached to a closet door or wall makes a perfect holder for belts, keeping sizes, widths and colors grouped together. It also may be used for holding necklaces and costume jewelry.
- A towel bar placed on the back of the door of a child's closet is ideal to hang jeans or pants at night.
- When putting away linens, place the necessary number of matching pillowcases in the final fold of each sheet, making them easily available. This method also can be applied to other paired items, such as towels and face cloths.
- If you use a table-top, fold-up ironing board, try setting it on books to raise it to a comfortable ironing height. This also will make more room for the ironed portion to hang over.